

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please delete the paragraph on page 3, line 19, and replace it with the following paragraph:

Fig. 7) shows details relating to Example 1.2 (SEQ ID NOs: 2, 2, 1, and 5, respectively in order of appearance).

Please delete the paragraph on page 3, line 21, and replace it with the following paragraph:

Fig. 9) shows details relating to Example 1.3 (SEQ ID NO: 3).

Please delete the paragraphs on page 30, lines 1-7, and replace them with the following paragraphs:

For instance, the molecule could be composed of the caspase-1 inhibitory peptide aldehyde Ac-YVAD-CHO (SEQ ID NO: 4), elongated versus the N-terminal side by, a short peptide carrying the factor X_a restriction cleavage site, for instance:

Ac-A-A-I-E-G-R-Y-V-A-D-CHO (SEQ ID NO: 3). While the Y-V-A-D-sequence (SEQ ID NO: 9) will direct the molecule to the active site of the caspase-1 type proteases ("S"-group) the COOH-terminus converted into an aldehyde will create the cross-link ("L"-group). The NH₂-terminal part of the molecule can be cleaved off by using factor X_a. See Figure 9.

Please delete the paragraph on page 32, lines 23-26, and replace it with the following paragraph:

Edman-degradation further confirmed the sequence of the two cross-linked chains: Cycle 1: Ala; Cycle 2: Gly + Asp; Cycle 3: Phe +Ser; Cycle 4: Ala; Cycle 5: Gly + Ser; Cycle 6: Asp; Cycle 7: Asp; Cycle 8: Ala; Cycle 9: Pro; with the ADSXS sequence (SEQ ID NO: 6) from the CP and AGFAGDDAP-sequence (SEQ ID NO:7) derived from 19-27 actin sequence.

Please insert the attached Sequence Listing in place of the Sequence Listing included with the Amendment filed January 3, 2006.